

MAR 13 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A PILOT
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FLAG RUGBY PROGRAM AIMED AT REDUCING
RISKY BEHAVIORS AND INCARCERATION RATES AMONG NATIVE
HAWAIIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER YOUTH.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety reported in 2008
2 that forty-one percent of the inmate population was of Native
3 Hawaiian or Pacific Islander descent; and

4
5 WHEREAS, in the 2013-2014 school year, students of Native
6 Hawaiian or Pacific Islander descent represented sixty-eight
7 percent of the student body of the Nanakuli-Waianae Complex
8 Area, 47.8 percent of the student body of the Kau-Keaau-Pahoa
9 Complex Area, and 48.9 percent of the student body of the
10 Castle-Kahuku Complex Area; and

11
12 WHEREAS, youth need proactive alternatives to avoid risky
13 behaviors and incarceration; and

14
15 WHEREAS, youth development programs have been effective at
16 building character, self-esteem, and team work skills; and

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18 WHEREAS, Southern California Youth Rugby has created a
19 rugby league of over seventy-five clubs offering programs for
20 boys and girls of all ages and levels of play; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the New Zealand Consulate General and After-School
23 All-Stars Hawaii worked together to bring the New Zealand
24 national rugby union team, the All Blacks, to visit King David
25 Kalakaua Middle School in October 2014, and Waianae Intermediate
26 School in February 2015, to spark interest in rugby; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Kau-Keaau-Pahoa and Nanakuli-Waianae Complex
29 Areas were designated as Zones of School Innovation in 2010; and

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31 WHEREAS, the After-School All-Stars program operates in the
32 Kau-Keaau-Pahoa and Nanakuli-Waianae Complex Areas; and

33



1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Rugby League is established in the
2 Kahuku Complex; and

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4 WHEREAS, a youth development program involving rugby could
5 prevent the State's Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander youth
6 from engaging in risky behaviors and incarceration; and

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8 WHEREAS, boys and girls need to have equal opportunities to
9 participate in youth development programs; now, therefore,

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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
12 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015,
13 that the Department of Education is encouraged to establish a
14 pilot youth development flag rugby program aimed at engaging
15 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander youth for the purpose of
16 reducing risky behaviors and incarceration rates; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
19 requested to establish the pilot program at middle and
20 intermediate schools in the Nanakuli-Waianae, Kau-Keaaupahoahoa,
21 and Castle-Kahuku Complex Areas; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that participating schools may
24 create interschool and intramural leagues; provided that
25 participation is open to all members of the student body; and

26
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education may
28 partner with After-School All-Stars Hawaii, Play Rugby USA, New
29 Zealand Consulate General, Department of Health, Department of
30 Human Services, Hawaii State Judiciary, Office of Youth
31 Services, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, County of Hawaii, City and
32 County of Honolulu, Kamehameha Schools, and any other agencies
33 and organizations that are deemed to be necessary for the
34 facilitation and administration of this pilot program; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
37 requested to determine the costs of the pilot program and
38 identify funding sources for its implementation; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot program is requested
41 to compile qualitative and quantitative data to demonstrate the



S.R. NO. 122

1 pilot program's impact upon Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander
2 youth; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
5 requested to extend the youth development flag rugby program to
6 interested middle and intermediate schools statewide after
7 successful implementation of the pilot program; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
10 Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education,
11 Nanakuli-Waianae Complex Area Superintendent, Kau-Keaau-Pahoa
12 Complex Area Superintendent, and Castle-Kahuku Complex Area
13 Superintendent.

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OFFERED BY:

[Handwritten Signature]

